

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating finished garments comprising cellulosic material so as to cause cross-linking, which comprises the step of treating fabrics with an effective amount of a blocked cross-linking agent for cellulose, said cross-linking agent being thermally activated, wherein the blocked cross-linking agent comprises a polycarboxylic acid, which is blocked by esterification with an electron withdrawing alcohol or imide to form a polyester and wherein the blocking alcohol or imide comprises one or more of:
  - a) trichlorophenol,
  - b) isoeugenol,
  - c) menthol,
  - d) 4-cyanophenol,
  - e) ethyl salicylate,
  - f) 2,6-dimethoxy phenol,
  - g) 4-aminophenol,
  - h) dimethylamino phenol, and,
  - i) N-hydroxysuccinimide.
2. (cancel)

3. (cancel)
4. (cancel)
5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4<sub>1</sub> wherein the polycarboxylic acid is succinic acid, butyl tetra carboxylic acid (BTCA), 3,6-dioxaoctanedioic acid, tartaric acid, mucic acid, glutamic acid, methylamino diacetic acid, or nitriloacetic acid.
6. (cancel)
7. (cancel)
8. (currently amended )A method according to claim 4<sub>1</sub> wherein the polyester comprises one or more of:
  - a) ~~the~~ trichlorophenol diester of succinic acid,
  - b) ~~the~~ trichlorophenol diester of BTCA,
  - c) ~~the~~ N-hydroxysuccinimide diester of succinic acid,
  - d) ~~the~~ isoeugenol diester of succinic acid, and,
  - e) ~~the~~ menthol diester of succinic acid.
9. (cancel)
10. (cancel)
11. (cancel)
12. (original) A method according to claim 1 which further comprises the step of heat curing the cellulosic material.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein heat treatment is performed at a temperature of from 50 to 250C, more preferably at a temperature of from 100-200C.
14. (original) A method accord to claim 1 wherein the cross-linking agent has a molecular weight below 1500 Dalton.
15. (currently amended) A composition for use in the method of claim 1 which comprises an effective amount of a blocked cross-linking agent for cellulose, said cross-linking agent being thermally activated, wherein the blocked cross-linking agent comprises a polycarboxylic acid, which is blocked by esterification with an electron withdrawing alcohol or imide to form a polyester and wherein the blocking alcohol or imide comprises one or more of:
- a) trichlorophenol,
  - b) isoeugenol,
  - c) menthol,
  - d) 4-cyanophenol,
  - e) ethyl salicylate,
  - f) 2,6-dimethoxy phenol,
  - g) 4-aminophenol,
  - h) dimethylamino phenol, and,
  - i) N-hydroxysuccinimide.

16. (original) A composition according to claim 15 further comprising a textile compatible carrier.
17. (original) A composition according to claim 16 wherein the textile compatible carrier comprises a surfactant.
18. (original) A composition according to claim 15, packaged in the form of a spray.